

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASUNCI 02614 011421Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
IO-13 HA-05 AID-05 /091 W
-----130900 021740Z /40

P 301916Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3364
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR, SHUM, US, PA
SUBJECT: REACTION TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADDRESS AT THE OASGA

1. THE ASUNCION PRESS GAVE PROMINENCE TO WIRE-SERVICE REPORTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S JUNE 21 ADDRESS WHICH OPENED THE VIII OASGA. THE MESSAGE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE A MAJOR EFFECT ON THE U.S.'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA CAME THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR. HEADLINES SUCH AS:"CARTER REAFFIRMS HIS HUMAN RIGHTS'CREDO BEFORE THE OAS";"CARTER GIVES NOTICE TO THE HEMISHPERE'S GOVERNMENTS - HUMANRIGHTS ARE FUNDAMENTAL"; AND "THE TRUE INTENTIONS OF THE CARTER GOVERNMENT COME OUT AT THE OAS" DEMONSTRATED THAT THE PARAGUAYANS HAD GOTTEN THE POINT.

2. THE HARD-LINERS AND REACTIONARY ELEMENTS WITHIN THE OFFICIAL GROUP ARE DISMAYED BY THE PRESIDENT'S CLEAR STATMENT THAT THOSE WHO VIOLATEHUMAN RIGHTS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES. THEIR ANGER ERUPTED IN A JUNE 27 "HOY" EDITORIAL WHICH CHALLENGED PRESIDENT CARTERS' SPEECH. THE EDITORIAL CONTAINED A NOW FAMILIAR RECITAL OF THE U.S.'S "SINS". IT THE CLAIMS THAT THE U.S. IS THE COUNTRY "AT THE TOP OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS BLACKLIST" (FOR NOT PROTECTING ITS CITIZENS HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST CRIME
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PAGE 02 ASUNCI 02614 011421Z

AND DISCRIMINATION) AND "MUST SET ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER BEFORE PROCLAIMING ITSELF THE CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. THOSE OPPOSED TO THE STROESSNER GOVERNMENT OPENLY WELCOMED THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH THROUGH COMMENT IN THE FEBRERISTA PARTY'S NEWSPAPER "EL PUEBLO" AND THROUGH AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER, ALSO PUBLISHED, SIGNED BY THE LEADERS OF THE AUTHENTIC

RADICAL LIBERALS, THE FEBRERISTAS AND THE CHRISTAIN DEMOCRATS.
THOSE PERSONS, BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAVE
PRIVATELY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR A STRONG U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY
AS A NECESSARY PROP FOR THEIR GUIETER EFFORTS TO MOVE THE GOP
TOWARD GREATER OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR
RELIEF THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS FORCEFULLY REAFFIRMED HIS COMMIT-
MENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS.
WHITE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: ASUNCION
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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